

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly amend the specification at paragraphs [0017] and [0033] as follows:

[0017] Requests to store or retrieve data 152 can be sent directly from a requesting machine 150 to the data registry 140. If the request 152 is valid and the data is available, then the requested data or a confirmation of the storage of the ~~[[date]] data~~ will be returned 154 to the requesting machine 150. Alternatively, requesting machines 110 may send more general requests 120 to a single sign-on server 130. The server then processes the requests 120 and determines what access to the data registry will be required to fulfill the requests 120. Based on this determination and knowledge about the configuration of the data registry 140, the single sign-on server 130 sends a data request 132 to the data registry 140, which can then return the requested data 134 or a confirmation ~~[[of]]~~ that data has been stored as requested 134. The single sign-on (“SSO”) server 130 takes this data and processes it to formulate a response 122 to the requesting machine’s request 120. It then returns this response 120 to the requesting machine 110.

[0033] The global user name and password provided by the user and a request to validate them 120a are sent to the authentication module through the application-single sign-on interface. The authentication module parses the request 120a, and from it, determines that it must compare the user name and password provided to it and User1’s authentication information stored in the data registry 140. A call to retrieve the needed data 132 is sent to the data registry 140 via the single sign-on server ~~[[13-]]~~ 130 data registry 140 interface. The data registry 140 returns the data 132 to the authentication module, which then carries out the comparison step. Assuming that the information matches, the authentication module sends back a response 122b to the application conveying that User1 can be signed on based on the

information provided. This allows the application 112b and every subsequent application on Machine 2 110a to access the enterprise registry as User1.